

REMARKS

By this Amendment, the pending claims are amended merely to be in further conformance with U.S. practice and new claims 11-14 (allowable for at least the same reasons as their based claims) are added to more fully claim the disclosed invention. No new matter is added by this Amendment. Claims 1-14 are pending.

The Office Action rejected claims 1, 2, 5, 6 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Nguyen et al. (U.S. 6,070,067; hereafter "Nguyen"), rejected claim 3 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nguyen, rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nguyen and Alperovich et al. (U.S. 6,138,002; hereafter "Alperovich"), and rejected claims 7, 9 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Nguyen and Hentila et al. (U.S. 6,044,259; hereafter "Hentila"). Applicant traverses the prior art rejections because no combination of the cited prior art teaches or suggest all the features recited in the rejected claims.

For example, no combination of the cited prior art teaches or suggests a method for transmitting credit/charging information to a mobile station, the method comprising "maintaining credit/charging information related to the subscriber of the mobile station in a network node [and] . . . based on the call setup request, determining the credit/charging information maintained in the network node. . ." as recited in independent claim 1 and its dependent claims. Similarly, no combination of the cited prior art teaches or suggest an arrangement for transmitting credit/charging information to a mobile station in a mobile telecommunications network, wherein the arrangement is configured to "maintain credit/charging information related to the subscriber of the mobile station in a network node [and]. . . based on the call setup request, to determine the credit/charging information maintained in the network node . . ." as recited in independent claim 8 and its dependent claims.

Nguyen merely discloses a technique in which the credit is maintained in the mobile terminal. As specifically taught by Nguyen:

- "Upon registration the subscriber's credit information i.e. prepaid credit balance in dollars and PIN code stored in MT 10 are transmitted at step 26 to the PPN 16 (FIG. 1) of the wireless network ..." (Nguyen, col. 4, line 1)
- "For the situation where the credit is okay and the caller hangs up for a regular termination, the PPN 16 in step 40 calculates the cost of the call

and determines a new credit balance i.e. the amount of credit the subscriber has left. The new credit information is then updated within the prepayment system and transmitted to MT 10 to be stored therein ..." (Nguyen, col. 4, line 36)

Thus, a characteristic feature of Nguyen is that the Mobile Terminal ("MT") is responsible for the long-term storage, i.e., the storage between calls, of the credit information.

To the contrary, in accordance with the claimed invention, credit/charging information related to the subscriber of the mobile station is maintained in a network node. Thus, Nguyen fails to teach or suggest the claimed method and arrangement that maintain credit/charging information related to the subscriber of the mobile station in a network node and updating the credit/charging information maintained network node. Moreover, Nguyen fails to teach or suggest the claimed method and arrangement that, based on the call setup request, determine the credit/charging information maintained in the network node because Nguyen expressly teaches that the credit information is stored in the terminal. Thus, there is no credit/charging information maintained in the network node.

Alperovich fails to remedy the deficiencies of Nguyen because Alperovich merely teaches generally on the subject of using USSD or SMS in a system that broadcasts specific system information.

Similarly, Hentila fails to remedy the deficiencies of Nguyen and Alperovich because Hentila merely teaches a telecommunication network that uses subscriber administration logic at a service control point to provide specific subscriber administration services.

Therefore, the cited prior art, analyzed individually or in combination fails to teach or suggest the claimed invention wherein the intelligent network is responsible for keeping track of the available credit and the credit is maintained in the network node.

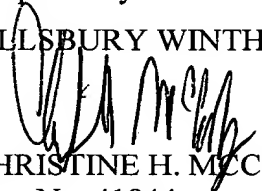
Accordingly, claims 1-14 are patentable over the cited prior art.

All objections and rejections having been addressed, Applicant requests issuance of a notice of allowance indicating the allowability of all pending claims. If anything further is necessary to place the application in condition for allowance, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP



CHRISTINE H. MCCARTHY

Reg. No. 41844

Tel. No. (703) 905-2143

Fax No. (703) 905-2500

Date: January 20, 2003  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 905-2000